

Comparisons of Job Characteristics

Focus Occupation: [Physical Therapist Assistants \(31-2021\)](#)

Associated Occupation: [Occupational Therapy Aides \(31-2012\)](#)

[Compare Knowledge](#)

[Compare Skills](#)

[Compare Abilities](#)

[Compare Detailed Work Activities](#)

[Compare Tools and Technologies](#)

<<	Focus occupation element is much lower
<	Focus occupation element is lower
0	Focus occupation element is at a similar level
>	Focus occupation element is at a higher level
>>	Focus occupation element is at a much higher level

Knowledge

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 94

Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)
Associated Occupation: Occupational Therapy Aides (31-2012)

Associated Occupation's Key Knowledge Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Education and Training	9.2	13.4	14.7	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient
Psychology	6.4	11.4	14.6	>>	Current knowledge level is likely more than sufficient
Therapy and Counseling	3.8	11.4	15.0	>>	Current knowledge level is likely more than sufficient
Medicine and Dentistry	3.7	8.9	12.5	>>	Current knowledge level is likely more than sufficient
Biology	3.7	7.9	8.5	0	Current knowledge level may be sufficient

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Skills

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 95

Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)
Associated Occupation: Occupational Therapy Aides (31-2012)

Associated Occupation's Key Skills Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Active Listening	11.0	12.3	11.5	0	Current skill level may be sufficient
Social Perceptiveness	9.1	12.0	11.8	0	Current skill level may be sufficient
Service Orientation	7.9	11.5	10.8	0	Current skill level may be sufficient
Persuasion	7.4	8.6	8.1	0	Current skill level may be sufficient

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Abilities

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 89

Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)
Associated Occupation: Occupational Therapy Aides (31-2012)

Associated Occupation's Key Abilities Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating		Evaluation of Focus Occupation
Oral Expression	12.4	13.3	13.3	0	Current ability level may be sufficient
Oral Comprehension	12.5	12.8	13.3	0	Current ability level may be sufficient
Problem Sensitivity	11.1	11.6	11.1	0	Current ability level may be sufficient
Speech Clarity	10.2	10.6	11.1	0	Current ability level may be sufficient
Written Expression	9.8	10.2	10.0	0	Current ability level may be sufficient
Speech Recognition	9.9	10.1	11.8	>	Current ability level is likely sufficient
Static Strength	5.0	10.0	8.6	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Extent Flexibility	4.8	7.9	8.5	0	Current ability level may be sufficient
Gross Body Coordination	3.9	7.6	6.6	<	Some improvement in abilities may be required
Gross Body Equilibrium	3.2	6.6	4.0	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Activities that Both Occupations Have in Common

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 89

Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)
Associated Occupation: Occupational Therapy Aides (31-2012)

Work Activities	Exclusivity of Activity
Administer medications or treatments	46
Assist patient with dressing, undressing, grooming, or bathing	77
Construct medical supportive devices	87
Instruct patient in use of supportive device	87
Instruct patients in methods to improve functional activities	87
Lift or transport ill or injured patients	69
Maintain dental or medical records	64
Motivate patients to practice exercises	89
Observe patient condition	48
Order or purchase supplies, materials, or equipment	35
Plan therapy treatment program	77
Position patient for therapy	70
Prepare patients for tests, therapy, or treatments	70
Schedule meetings or appointments	68
Take vital signs	56
Use massage therapy procedures	81
Work with persons with mental disabilities or illnesses	62

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily perform all of the listed activities. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the activity is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations engage in that activity.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Tools and Technologies that Both Occupations Have in Common

Similarity of Focus
Occupation to Associated
Occupation: 78

Focus Occupation: Physical Therapist Assistants (31-2021)
Associated Occupation: Occupational Therapy Aides (31-2012)

Tools and Technologies	Exclusivity
Ambulation and transfer and positioning aids for the physically challenged	27
Casting and splinting supplies	25
Computers	1
Content authoring and editing software	1
Data management and query software	1
Finance accounting and enterprise resource planning ERP software	2
Gait training products	43
Industry specific software	1
Patient transport products	18
Reaching and gripping aids for the physically challenged	80
Rehabilitation exercise devices and equipment	24

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily use all of the listed tools and technologies. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the tool or technology is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations use that tool or technology.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.